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August 31, 2006

To: School Breakfast and National School Lunch Program Sponsor

From: Pat Cook, Consultant
Office of Child Nutrition and School Health

Subject: Department of Defense's Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance

Public Law 109-163 (January 6, 2006) made the Department of Defense's Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance (FSSA) permanently available. Therefore, the exclusion of the FSSA as income for the Child Nutrition programs is also permanent.

Previously, for purposes of Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) eligibility determination, the FSSA payments were counted as earned income for households (see Q and A 2 on page 37 of the August 2001, *Eligibility Guidance for School Meals Manual*). However, in accordance with Public Law 109-163, any FSSA that a household receives must not be treated as income in determining eligibility for free and reduced price meals under any of the Child Nutrition Programs.